

NOTE

A New Distribution Record for *Podocinum pacificum*
Berlese (Acarine: Mesostigmata)

A single female *Podocinum pacificum* Berlese was extracted from six soil samples collected on the Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation in San Patricio County about 8 miles north of Sinton, Texas. The soil samples were collected 15 June 1978 in the riparian forest bordering the Aransas River; each sample was placed in a Berlese funnel under continuous illumination from 80-watt lamps for 10 days. The extracted material was preserved in 70% ETOH for sorting and identification.

Evans and Hyatt (1958. Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. Ser. 12, X:913-932) discussed the zoogeography of the genus *Podocinum* and noted its restriction to regions within latitudes 30°N and 30°S, respectively. Accordingly, the genus is cosmotropical in distribution with the exception of *P. pacificum* whose distribution also includes temperate zones. In the United States, a female *P. pacificum* was collected at Berkeley, California, 29 October 1951 by W. C. Bentinck (*in* Evans and Hyatt. 1958. Op. cit.). Our record for *P. pacificum* originated at latitude 28°00'N and extends the known distribution of the species in the United States to Texas and established a zoogeographical link between California and Argentina (Evans and Hyatt. 1958. Op. cit.).

Podocinum pacificum does not seem abundant in the microarthropod fauna of forest soils; the museum collections examined by Evans and Hyatt (1958. Op. cit.) normally contained only a single specimen or, at most, four individuals.

The Texas specimen of *P. pacificum* originated from a riparian forest community; the major forest species and their frequency of occurrence along 20 100-foot line transects were hackberry (*Celtis* spp.) 100%, anaqua (*Ehretia anacua* (Terán and Berland.)) 30%, persimmon (*Diospyros texana* Scheele) 70%, and ironwood (*Bumelia lycioides* (L.) Pers.) 100%. Mustang grape (*Vitis candicans* Engelm.) drapes many of the trees and provides additional foliage cover to the overstory shading a complex understory of brush, forbs, and grasses. The soils are also complex because of periodic flooding by the adjacent Aransas River. Generally, the soils are of the Sinton complex and Odem fine sandy loam groups; sandy terraces frequently intersect the heavier soils at these sites.

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NOTE

Mallophaga from Some North American Anatidae

During an ongoing survey of the helminth parasites of anatids, particularly in central and eastern Canada (Bain and Threlfall. 1977. *Proc. Helminthol. Soc. Wash.* 44:219-221; Mahoney and Threlfall. 1978. *Can. J. Zool.* 56:436-439; Noseworthy and Threlfall. 1978. *J. Parasitol.* 64:365-367; Turner and Threlfall. 1975. *Proc. Helminthol. Soc. Wash.* 42:157-169), Mallophaga were collected whenever they were seen. However, no systematic study of birds was made for these organisms. The specimens were fixed and stored in 70% alcohol and later mounted in Rubin's solution (Rubin. 1951. *Stain Technol.* 26:257-260) or stained with carbol fuchsin and mounted in Canada Balsam. Lapage (1961. *Parasitology.* 51:1-109; reprinted 1962. *Wildlife Dis.* (26), 3 microcards (109 p.)) listed the Mallophaga that had been recovered from members of the family Anatidae, while Emerson (1972. Checklist of the Mallophaga of North America (North of Mexico). Part IV, Bird host list. Desert Test Center, Dugway, Utah. 216 p.) gathered together records for North American anatids. The classification of the Mallophaga follows the scheme of Emerson (1964. Checklist of the Mallophaga of North America (North of Mexico) Part I. Suborder Ischnocera, 171 p. Part II, Suborder Amblycera, 104 p. Dugway Proving Ground, Dugway, Utah), while that of the avian hosts follows the A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds (1957. American Ornithologists' Union, Port City Press, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland. 691 p.) and its thirty-second supplement (1973. *Auk.* 90:411-419).

The following annotated list contains records of Mallophaga that we recovered from the anatids we examined, host origin (Newfoundland (NFLD), New Brunswick (NB), Ontario (ONT)), the location on the host (when known), and their status (- previous records,* new host record). No attempt was made to identify the majority of the lice to the subspecific level, due to the doubtful validity of many of the aforesaid taxa.